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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 8, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 3 totaled 340,825, down 0.2 percent from the comparable week of 1989 but 1.7 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 5.8 percent in the West but down 5.1 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, loadings of metallic ores rose by 3,102 cars (23.3 percent), and loadings of chemicals increased by 1,192 cars (4.2 percent). Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment fell by 1,913 cars (8.9 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first nine weeks of 1990 totaled 2,991,387, up 0.9 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 121,346 trailers and/or containers for the week ended March 3, up 4.2 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first nine weeks of 1990 was 1,039,325 trailers and/or containers, 4.2 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended March 3 totaled 19.8 billion, virtually the same as in the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first nine weeks of 1990 was an estimated 173.5 billion ton-miles, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 3, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MARCH 3, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	32,387	33,335	-2.8 %	31,501	2.8 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,697	1,529	11.0	1,643	3.3
Metallic Ores	16,406	13,304	23.3	15,603	5.1
Coal	127,872	127,011	.7	129,751	-1.4
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	11,341	11,900	-4.7	11,564	-1.9
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,412	9,340	.8	8,768	7.3
Grain Mill Products	10,119	9,675	4.6	10,203	-.8
Food & Kindred Products	9,013	9,045	-.4	8,762	2.9
Primary Forest Products	10,630	10,362	2.6	9,758	8.9
Lumber & Wood Products	7,488	7,526	-.5	6,971	7.4
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,905	11,549	-5.6	11,067	-1.5
Chemicals	29,706	28,514	4.2	27,484	8.1
Petroleum Products	4,666	5,239	-10.9	4,418	5.6
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,773	9,274	5.4	9,140	6.9
Coke	5,223	5,860	-10.9	5,215	.2
Metals & Products	10,161	10,747	-5.5	9,663	5.2
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,581	21,494	-8.9	19,100	2.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,351	9,318	-10.4	8,277	.9
All Other Carloads	6,094	6,654	-8.4	6,262	-2.7
Total	340,825	341,676	-.2 %	335,150	1.7 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MARCH 3, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 9 WEEKS ENDING MARCH 3, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	340,825	341,676	-.2 %	2,991,387	2,964,991	.9 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	70,924	69,357	2.3	581,892	575,303	1.1
Containers	50,422	47,061	7.1	457,433	422,160	8.4
Total	121,346	116,418	4.2	1,039,325	997,463	4.2
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.8	19.8	.0 %	173.5	171.2	1.3 %

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